

Industrial

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Gerald L. Revell, president of Cal-Metal Corp. of Torrance and chairman of the Little Company of Mary Campaign industry committee, today mailed letters to all members of this group informing them that the Jan. 10 gathering is a "must" for executives of every firm in the area. He cited the action of Los Angeles Boundary Commission in approving the district hospital petition now being circulated.

Tax Burden Cited

"All of us have been made aware of the disproportionate tax burden which would fall upon industry should a district hospital be created," he wrote. "Our participation in the Little Company of Mary Hospital Campaign, to assure construction of the voluntary, tax-free institution, is the only certain way to defeat the proposed district hospital and to protect our firms against an inequitable tax assessment."

Revell said he felt sure that industry generally would prefer the accredited, Grade A, tax-free hospital to a politically operated district hospital.

Firm Exceeds Quota

He stated that his firm is prepared to give for the voluntary campaign at a rate of about \$35 per employee, which is considerably above the proposed formula of giving by industry.

Industry, under the formula adopted by the industry executive committee, is asked to give 23 per cent of the total cost of the 125-bed institution, while local business and professional firms, the general public, and local organizations contribute toward a fund for expansion of the hospital to 200 beds or more, as needs demand. The remainder of financing for the \$2,500,000 project will come from federal and state allocations, from \$150,000 pledges by local doctors, and from a \$135,000 gift from the Little Company of Mary.

Planners

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16 lots in tract 18771 for commercial development.

Tract 18363, located on the southwest corner of 174th and Ainsworth Ave., containing 29 lots and presented by James Norris, was held over for two weeks, pending determination of street locations.

Sent to committee was tract 22771, located southeast of 168th and Kornblum Ave., containing 14 lots and presented by Wayne L. Nelson.

A committee was appointed to study rezoning in the El Nido area recently annexed by Torrance. Members will be Thirvin Fleetwood, John Mulvihill, and Kenneth Uveda.

The request of Harlan G. Stevens, 2749 Gramercy Ave., to use his home to act as a sales agent for the Quartz Mercury Lamp Rebuilders was approved.

The request for a business license by Tru-Form Plastics, 4838 Narrot St., was removed from the agenda after the petitioner failed to appear.

THS Meeting For Seniors' Parents Set

"Youth on the Threshold" will be the theme of the PTA meeting on Tuesday at 8 in the high school cafeteria.

Parents of senior students are invited to participate in the discussion of senior activities which will take place this semester.

Graduation requirements will be explained to parents by Miss C. Rous, girls' advisor. W. Morgan, boys' advisor, will present a list of available scholarships and explain college requirements.

Graduation and other senior activities will be discussed by Mrs. B. Lowe, senior sponsor, and Don Kelly, senior class president. Roger Davis will present the case for a very timely topic of fluoridation.

Alaska Pioneer Visiting Here

Alexander Malcolm "Sandy" Smith, one of the most fabulous characters in the history of Alaska, stopped off in Torrance last week to swap stories of the old Klondike days with an old friend, Tom Watson, 1446 W. 219th St.

Both men were residents of the northern territory back at the turn of the century and shared in the excitement of the gold rush. They renewed their acquaintance five years ago at a reunion of the Alaska Yukon Club, after a separation of about 40 years.

Past Recalled

These are some of the ad-

Lad Injured As Auto Hits Sand, Flips

A North Torrance youth was injured seriously Friday night when the car in which he was riding overturned along Hawthorne Ave., south of Del Amo Blvd., police reported.

David J. Ladd, 17, of 3929 W. 176th St., was taken by Wright's Ambulance to Harbor General Hospital for treatment of possible fractures of the right arm and left ankle.

Investigators said he was a passenger in an auto driven by Delmar French, 17, of 4535 Narrot St. The motorist said his car overturned when he had to veer into a sandy dividing strip to avoid another auto.

Rose Tourney

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Organization throws a party for the student workers.

Many cities also sponsor a community-wide contest for design of the float which will appear in the New Year's Day Parade.

ventures which Smith can recall since he first came to Alaska in 1899.

He probably has traveled through more of the northern country than any other man alive.

He was a member of the first geological party which ever went up the Yukon River in 1902.

He was second in command of Sir Hubert Wilkins' expedition which in 1928 made an unsuccessful attempt to reach the North Pole.

He discovered the first-known surface pool of oil in Alaska.

He discovered the first-known stand of timber in far northern Alaska.

Captured By Reds

He was captured by the Communists while prospecting in Siberia in 1921 and held prisoner for more than three years.

He was a member of the first jury in Alaska, impaneled in 1899.

He has served as trailblazer for the Mounted Police.

He once served as gold commissioner of Wild Creek, a small Alaskan prospecting community.

He has known most of the prominent figures in the early history of Alaska.

Prospected For Gold

Born in Scotland, Smith came to Canada where he worked for the Hudson Bay Co. for three years. He came to Alaska in 1899 and has lived there ever since. Although he started out prospecting for gold, he is now looking for uranium and believes that he may find some sizable quantities one of these days. He said he has found some small amounts to date.

Although in his 70's, Smith scoffs at the Alaskan weather, which sometimes gets as cold as 75 or 80 below. His last home there was located just

60 miles south of the Arctic Circle.

He recalls that he was prospecting in Siberia in 1920 and 1921, just as the Communists were consolidating their hold on Russia after the revolution. He was captured by the Reds and held in a concentration camp for three years. He has no love for the Reds, and recalls that they once put him before a firing squad, just for sport.

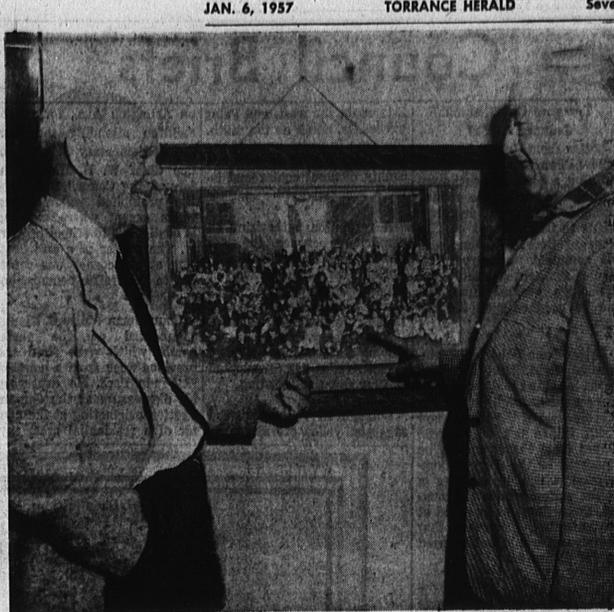
"They did it just to scare me, and they did," he recalls. Smith also remembers with pleasure the years from 1900 to 1906 which he spent in Nome. After the last boat arrived in the winter, the town would become one big family for the season, with 50- and 100-mile foot races run in laps indoors, baseball and basketball games played indoors, and all sorts of festivities.

Alaska Changes

"There is a different breed of cattle in Alaska now," he noted sadly, recalling the old days.

He is a great believer in the future of Alaska and thinks that the United States should give more attention to the development of its resources, which Smith believes are fabulous. He urged that the United States give incentives to prospectors and developers as Canada does.

He left Torrance yesterday and plans to visit more friends before returning to his beloved north country.



OLD KLONDIKE DAYS . . . Recalling the old Gold Rush Days in Nome, Alaska, at the turn of the century are Alexander Malcolm Smith and Tom Watson, 1446 W. 219th St. One of the most widely traveled residents of the far north, Smith is visiting the local man and swapping stories of the old days. Smith is a member of the exclusive Explorers' Club of New York, while Watson belongs to its brother club in Los Angeles, the Adventurers' Club.

He's growing by leaps and bounds since he got a newspaper route---



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